

**Amendments to the Claims:** This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-29 (Canceled).

30. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for securing a fin to a sports board, comprising:

a housing that covers a fin mounting fastener;

a first shaft having a first end connected to the housing and a second end extending away from the housing;

a tab located at the second end of the first shaft that engages a lip of a sports board channel when said apparatus is in a locked position and that disengages the lip when said apparatus is in an unlocked position;

a second shaft spaced a fixed distance from the first shaft, the second shaft having a first end connected to the housing and a second end extending away from the housing; and

a locking mechanism that prevents removal of the housing from the sports board when the locking mechanism is in a locked position and that allows removal of the housing from the sports board when the locking mechanism is in an unlocked position.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the second shaft comprises a retractable deadbolt that extends into the channel when the apparatus is in a locked position, and retracts into the housing when the apparatus is in an unlocked position.

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the locking mechanism is used to extend and retract the second shaft.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the second shaft extends from a bottom surface of the housing when the apparatus is in either the locked

or unlocked position and the first shaft is rotatable about an axis perpendicular to the bottom surface of the housing.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the locking mechanism is used to rotate the first shaft about the axis.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, further comprising a depression located on a bottom surface of the housing, that receives said fin mounting fastener.

36. Canceled

37. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for securing a sports board fin to a sports board, comprising: ~~The apparatus of claim 36, wherein said locking means comprises:~~

means for covering a fin mounting fastener;

a first shaft having a first end connected to the means for covering and a second end extending away from the means for covering;

a tab located at the second end of the first shaft that engages a lip of a sports board channel when said apparatus is in a locked position and that disengages the lip when said apparatus is in an unlocked position;

a second shaft spaced a fixed distance from the first shaft, the second shaft having a first end connected to the means for covering and a second end extending away from the means for covering; and

a locking mechanism that prevents removal of the means for covering from the sports board when the apparatus is in a locked position and that allows removal of the means for covering from the sports board when the apparatus is in an unlocked position.

38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the first shaft extends from a bottom surface of the means for covering when the apparatus is in either the locked or unlocked position and the second shaft comprises a retractable deadbolt that

extends into the channel when the apparatus is in a locked position, and retracts into the means for covering when the apparatus is in an unlocked position.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the locking mechanism is used to extend and retract the second shaft.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the second shaft extends from a bottom surface of the means for covering when the apparatus is in either the locked or unlocked position and the first shaft is rotatable about an axis perpendicular to the bottom surface of the means for covering.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the locking mechanism is used to rotate the first shaft about the axis.

Claims 42 – 47 (Canceled).